

Falcon Focus

A Falcon District Neighborhood Watch Newsletter from the Crime Prevention Unit of the Mesa Police Department

Volume 1, Issue 1

Chief Jan Strauss

May 2001

Meet your Neighborhood Watch coordinator



Jerry
Quarles

I graduated from Westwood High School in 1980, then enlisted into the United States Army as a Nike-Hercules Missile Computer Repair Technician serving in Germany for a total of four years. I launched my career in law enforcement when I enlisted into the Arizona Army National Guard as a Military Police Officer serving from 1984 until 1988. I worked from 1985 until 1989 with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office as a Detention Officer and was hired in 1989 by the City of Mesa Police Department to work in the Detention facility. I then attended the first Mesa Police Crime Scene Academy in 1994 where I served as a Crime Scene Technician for a period of six years processing a variety of crime scenes. I started volunteering for the Community Relations Unit, providing Neighborhood Watch presentations and performing as "Hummer" the Clown for crime prevention events. I was hired full-time as a Crime Prevention Specialist in October of 2000.

I am a member of the Arizona Crime Prevention Association (ACPA), the National Association of Field Trainers (NAFTO), and Safety & Magic in Law Enforcement (SMILE).

I have received certification from the Scottsdale Art School and Karen Taylor, the Artist for "America's Most Wanted" in Comprehensive Composite Art. I am a NAFTO certified trainer/instructor, and SMILE certified educator and entertainer.

I recently completed the Arizona Peace Officer Standards in Training (AZPOST) general instructor school and was certified as a CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) Practitioner.

The change from Crime Scene Investigation to Crime Prevention is an exciting challenge. I look forward to the interaction I will have with the fast growing and ever changing neighborhoods. We will share many challenges, but working as a team and a partnership we will overcome those challenges. I would like to take a moment to thank all of you for the support that you have already given me to make the Block Watches in Falcon District some of the best. You should be proud of all the hard work you have put into your neighborhood to help reduce and deter criminal activity.

If you have questions about the Neighborhood Watch program or any other questions or concerns about the Police Department, please feel free to contact me. I am usually available Monday – Thursday from 7 AM-5 PM. Due to the nature of the job, I can be out of the office or on the phone quite often. Just leave a detailed message at 480-644-2539 so I can return the call with the answers you need. I look forward to finding new ways to make your

Have a question about Neighborhood Watch, Crime Prevention, Police Department or even the City of Mesa? Have it answered here. Mail in your question to the Community Relations Unit, 130 N. Robson Mesa AZ. 85201 Attn. Jerry Quarles, fax to 644-2800, phone me at 644-2539 or E-mail to jerry_quarles@ci.mesa.az.us

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Sustaining Your Neighborhood Watch

When crime drops or the neighborhood problem is alleviated, some Block Watch groups slowly lose momentum. It takes a motivated Captain to keep a Neighborhood Watch active. It is vital to blend crime prevention into other community concerns.

Have your Watch group identify the neighborhood's strengths and problems and then brainstorm on what members can do to improve the quality of life in their community. Neighborhood Watch is a pro-active approach to crime prevention. When your neighborhood loses interest due to boredom or monotony, then members in those communities tend to drift away and the block watch becomes stagnant. Successful Neighborhood Watches move beyond the basics of home security, watching out for suspicious activities, and reporting them to law enforcement.

Here are some ideas to get you started.

- Parents can organize after-school activities for young people in the neighborhood and teach them about safety. (For example: bike safety, crossing the street safety, pool safety and dialing 911.) Literature is available from both the Police and Fire departments.
- Make Neighborhood Watch meetings more educational by inviting guest speakers. (Fire Prevention, Neighborhood Outreach, Code Compliance, Traffic Engineering and Police Department).
- Start a community crime prevention newsletter. Block captains or volunteers (including kids and teenagers) can distribute the newsletter, which also helps them keep in touch with residents.
- Hold special training events. Look to police departments, community action and social service organizations, religious institutions, colleges, business associations, schools, and youth organizations for help.
- Collect food, clothing and toys, then donate to a charity your group chooses.
- Have a “guys night”, invite all the men and boys in the neighborhood to make wood projects (birdhouses) or play sports. Be creative.

- Have a “gals night”, invite all the ladies and girls in the neighborhood to have a cookie exchange or share hobbies. Possibilities are endless.
- Have a neighborhood yard sale to raise funds for future projects and items needed for block parties.
- Sponsor community cleanups to improve retention basins, alleys or vacant lots. Help the elderly or handicapped by assisting with landscaping or maintenance.
- With summer around the corner, organize weekend kid fairs that will promote positive values, drug-free environments, and build self-confidence. Have a mini-parade where kids can decorate wagons, scooters and bikes to be judged for prizes. (Of course everyone wins and gets a prize!). Have a chalk drawing contest, goofy hair contest or arts and crafts. Have an awesome time.
- Create a neighborhood web site to provide information to your group on meetings, events, and to share ideas. There are many free sites available.

www.neighborhoodlink.com

www.azneighbors.com

Don't stop at prevention -- have a long-range vision for community improvement. A small group of people can make the neighborhood not only safer, but a friendlier place to live.



This is where you can share recipes with other block leaders for their next event. Just send me your recipe! I will submit the first one. Enjoy!

Southwest Salad

½ cup oil
1 tsp. salt
2 tsp. sugar
¼ cup lemon juice
½ tsp. ground cumin
2 cucumbers, cubed
1 clove garlic, minced
6 lg. tomatoes chopped
2/3 cup pitted black olives
1 green pepper, chopped
¼ cup green onion, chopped
1 tbsp. fresh cilantro, chopped

Mix ingredients and chill prior to serving. Simple!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

BLOCK LEADERS MEETING

LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED

MAY 22ND 2001

Information is provided on crime prevention various organizations that can improve your Neighborhood Watch group. Held bi-annually.

G.A.I.N. Kick-Off 2001

MESA POLICE TRAINING FACILITY

SEPTEMBER 13TH 2001

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH LEADERS TO MEET MESA CITY AND POLICE PERSONNEL, AND GATHER INFORMATION TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS. THIS WILL BE BY INVITATION ONLY. PLEASE RESERVE THIS EVENING FOR FOOD AND FUN.

G.A.I.N. 2001

GETTING ARIZONA INVOLVED IN NEIGHBORHOODS

SATURDAY OCTOBER 20TH 2001 4-9 PM

Neighborhood Watch events and parties held throughout Mesa

SAFE WITH SCRUFF AND MCGRUFF

Take a bite out of crime by joining McGruff, a dog who loves kids as much as he respects law and order. Sniff out [www. mcgruff.org](http://www.mcgruff.org) and hang with the crime-fighting canine to learn how to be safe and healthy. The site has some fun activities, including the ABC Maze and the Color

Me Scruff coloring book. You'll also find several comic book stories and you can send McGruff your thoughts using a way-cool letter writing machine. Safety always comes first at Mcgruff.org.



STOP ROAD RAGE!

Keep Your Cool – Don't Offend – Steer Clear Of Confrontation

Visit the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety at www.aafts.org for more information.

Reminders:

Year 2001 Stickers Have Gone out!

**Don't forget to put them on your Neighborhood
Watch signs!**

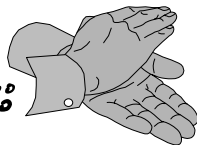
Stickers were sent out only to Neighborhood Watches that had two or more events in 2000. If you didn't receive your stickers, and held two events in 2000, please call 644-2300 to find out what dates are missing. If you only had one event during the year 2000, you will not get a sticker and will need to have two events during 2001 to get the 2002 sticker in January of next year.

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- If you need to order barricades for your block party/meeting, please call the City of Mesa Transportation Division at 644-2160. The Mesa Police Department does not provide barricades.
 - Please don't forget to send in your attendance sheets immediately following your meeting/party. It is imperative we have them to keep our records in order and to document that you have met the requirements of Neighborhood Watch so there is no delay in getting your new stickers. They can also be faxed to 480-644-2800.
 - If you require pamphlets for a meeting, please contact us at least three weeks prior to the date needed. We now have many brochures in Spanish and our literature is also available on line at www.ci.mesa.az.us/police/commrel.htm.
 - If there are any changes to your Neighborhood Watch group we need to know. This includes a merging with other groups, add-on or removal of additional streets, a new captain or co-captain, and any other changes that would affect your group.
 - To request a visit from the Fire Department for your block party/event, please call 644-3882 and speak with Fire Prevention to make arrangements.

Just the Facts!

Total Mesa Neighborhood Watches.....	725
Falcon District.....	226
Superstition District.....	272
Dobson District.....	106
Central District.....	121
Total Captains & Assistants.....	1,304
Falcon Captains & Assistants.....	351

Special Thanks:



Block leaders **Milton & Leona Diedrick**, with the help of their assistant captains have coordinated over 40 street groups to involve over 1000 residents in their Neighborhood Watch at Val Vista Village.

Block leader **Debbie Forrest** has donated numerous hours of her own time to establish a Neighborhood Watch at the Groves to include 50 Captains and over 320 homes. Debbie consistently maintains neighborhood communication through newsletters and lots of fun events.

Block leader **Jeanne Schmidt** is always active and communicates effectively the neighborhood problems with both the community and the proper agencies involved. Jeanne recently attended the Mesa Police Citizen's Academy.

Block leader **Mitch Foy** has taken on a large Neighborhood watch area and recently held a block watch party with attendance of 1000 people. Activities included: hot air balloon, climbing wall, musical groups, tug of war, bouncy things, rope bridges, hay rides and much more.

Block leader **Dewinn Hume** had a Neighborhood Watch event for the Old West Village with a Luau theme. The party included live Island dancers, Island food and live Island music. Dewinn was even featured on Ch-15 live TV broadcast of Sonorian Living.

Block leader **Tammy Kinnard**, who graciously allowed us to use her home for the filming of a Neighborhood Watch video for Mesa Channel-11. Tammy also gave a great interview on the video.

Block leader **Lorry Arnold** for her assistance and the interview she gave promoting Neighborhood Watch in the making of a Neighborhood Watch video for Mesa Channel-11.

Great Job! Good Work!

New & Reactivated Watch Groups

1800 N. Barkley	Milt Nolan	New
1900 N. Barkley	Lana Melquist	New
	Mike + Michelle Gardner	
2400 E. Billings	Alex Shull	React
	Carrie Koffman	
3100 E. Broadway	George Kryle	React
2000 E. Brown	Hazel Farney	React
4900 E. Brown	Jamie Brady	React
2200 E. Caballero	Margo Worthen	React
4000 E. Contessa	Pamela Talent	New
	Robin Dassinger	
	Betty Brown	
4700 E. Covina	Tammy Kinnard	New
1900 E. Dana	Denise Yribarren	React
2800 E. Dolphin	Diana + Greg Carpenter	New
5100 E. Evergreen	Audrey Marti	New
1700 E. Hackamore	Maurio Fishbeck	New
2200 E. Jacaranda	Peggy Danielson	React
1500 E. Jasmine	Fred Ash	New
	John + Carmalee Ellingson	
1400 E. Julep	Linda Larson	New
1500 E. June	Lee Redding	New
1500 E. Juniper	Roy + Jackie Howa	New
150 S. Windsor	Bud Slemph	React
	Jim Slevin	
	Bob Blance	
300 S. Winterhaven	Nancy + Ron Rust	New
	Lyn Conner	
	Alice Cummins	

I want to thank each and every one of these Block Captains for all the time and effort they have put into the reactivating or starting of a Neighborhood Watch in their area. It takes sincere dedication and strong commitment to challenge your neighborhood and community in the fight against crime. Keep up the good work.

Making Children, Families, And Communities

Safer from Violence



This twenty-four-page booklet packed with a range of things individuals can do to prevent or reduce violence. Profiles of real-life programs that help curb violence are complemented by tips for success in talking with children, working with neighbors, and building community strength. Extensive resource list, checklist, referral phone list, and two posters to help in talking with children are included. Call **800-WE-PREVENT** for a free copy. Or visit weprevent.org

The National Crime Prevention Council



Neighborhood Watch Facts

Program Requirements

*Signs are subject to removal if **all** requirements are not met.*

- ☆ **50%** of the designated neighborhood watch area must participate at each event
- ☆ At least **1 Block Captain** is needed
- ☆ **2 meetings/events** per calendar year

Administrative Requirements

- ☆ Required documentation will be signatures on attendance sheets. Effective May 1, 2001, letters only **will Not** be accepted as documentation.
- ☆ Attendance sheets must be sent **within 4 weeks** after meeting. Send attendance sheets to Community Relations Division, 130 N. Robson, Mesa, AZ 85201, or Fax 480-644-2800. Attendance sheets and envelopes can be provided by calling 480-644-2300.
- ☆ Neighborhood Coordinator requires at least **3 weeks** notice to schedule a speaker or to request an officer.
- ☆ At least **2 weeks** notice is needed if over 50 brochures are needed for any event.

Neighborhood Watch Coordinators

Central /Dobson Districts--	Holly Hosac	480-644-2033
Falcon District --	Jerry Quarles	480-644-2539
Superstition District --	Terri Teten	480-644-3692



Meet Your Police Department!



Each newsletter will feature different units of the Mesa Police Department.

Community Action Team

Police and the Community working together

The Mesa Police Department strongly subscribes to a Community Policing philosophy. In order for Community Policing to succeed, there has to be a partnership between the Police and the Community. The Community includes residential neighborhoods, businesses, schools, neighborhood leaders, public and private resources, and social service providers. Community Policing is based on the premise that it is more cost effective and less consuming to prevent crime than to investigate crime after the fact.

While all officers with the Mesa P.D. are schooled on and encouraged to utilize the Community Policing concept, a special unit was created to specifically address Community Policing issues. This unit is called the Community Action Team (C.A.T.). The mission of the C.A.T. is to:

- Work with beat officers and the community to address complaints and issues that contribute to crime and the fear of crime within their neighborhoods.
- Provide a proactive approach to policing to reduce the level of crime and calls for service by attending community meetings, patrol briefings, and by providing more personal service to citizens.
- Work directly with beat officers and citizens to determine crime patterns and use proactive and innovative problem solving methods.

The primary goals and objectives of the Community Action Team are to reduce calls for service in targeted areas through problem solving and proactive policing.

Here is the Falcon District Community Action Team

SGT Mike Johnson
Officer Derek France
Officer Steve Miller
Officer John FitzGerald
Officer Mark Reyes
Officer Lisa Hartwick
Officer Ed Alameda

The Falcon District Neighborhood Watches thank all of these Officers for the hard work and effort they have provided to our community. We appreciate all the attention they give at Block parties.
GREAT JOB!

Identification services

Crime Scene Technicians

When crime does occur, not always will a Sworn Police Officer respond to the scene. Usually, when there is no suspect information and the incident location is safe and secure, a report over the phone may be taken. If there is evidence to be processed, a Mesa Police Department Crime Scene Technician (C.S.T.) will be assigned to the call.

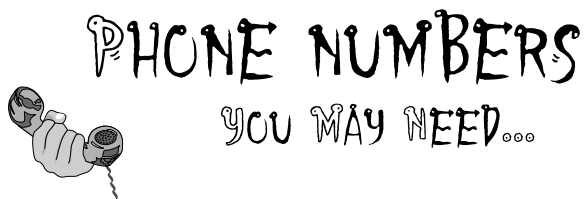
There are currently five squads to provide 24-hour service. A supervisor manages each squad and Identification Supervisor Joann Progreba-Dykstra directs those five. The Crime Scene Technicians are responsible for forensic photography at crime scenes using 35mm and digital equipment. In addition, they are responsible for the collection of physical and biological evidence, field drug testing, latent print processing, casting of shoe and tire impressions, developing composites of suspects and acquiring inked fingerprints from individuals in the field. The Crime Scene Technicians also provide court testimony in Municipal, Superior and Federal courts.

The Crime Scene Technicians responded to over 16,000 calls for service during the year 2000. They are often busy responding to a large variety of service calls including residential and commercial burglaries, criminal damage, accidents, domestic violence, assaults, robbery, vehicle burglaries and stolen vehicles.

- You can assist the Crime Scene Technicians in preserving evidence in your home or vehicle after a crime has been committed by not moving or touching anything until their arrival. It is imperative that any evidence that may exist is not contaminated.
- Clean the interior and exterior of vehicle and home windows often to remove dirt and existing prints. This will aid the C.S.T. in locating fingerprint evidence.
- Do not enter your home or vehicle if you find an open door or window and suspect a crime has been committed. Call (911) for police to check your home and ensure it is safe for you to enter.
- Participate in Operation Identification to protect your possessions from burglary and theft. Engravers are available at all branches of the Mesa Public Library.

I would like to thank the Crime Scene Unit for all the diligent work they have provided in scene processing.

Excellent!



Mesa Police Department

Emergency.....	9-1-1
Non-Emergency.....	644-2211
(Suspicious Activity)	
General Information.....	644-2324
Anonymous Reporting.....	644-2000
Traffic Unit.....	644-3533
(Motor Officers)	
Falcon Substation.....	644-2598
(Speed Radar Trailer)	

City Of Mesa

Graffiti Paintout.....	644-3083
Alarm Coordinator.....	644-2699
Speed Hump Information.....	644-2160
Radar Gun Checkout.....	644-2160
Neighborhood Outreach.....	644-4067
Street Lights.....	644-2160
Street Barricades.....	644-2160
Mesa Park Rangers	
(Administration).....	644-2942
After 5pm and weekends.....	644-2262
Neighborhood Clean ups.....	644-2744
Fire Prevention.....	644-2622
Code Compliance.....	644-2061

Hotlines

Gang Hotline (644-GANG)	644-4264
Narcotics Hotline.....	602-440-5081
Stolen Vehicle/Chop Shop Hotline.....	644-2880
Street Light Hotline.....	644-3191
Slum Lord Hotline.....	602-373-SLUM

Watch Your Car Program Registration

1-888-668-4433

Citizen Police Academy

Share the Experience

Enjoy the Adventure

Meet the Challenge

Program objectives:

- Course designed to further the partnership between the community and the Mesa Police Department.
- Provide citizens with an understanding of the operation of the Mesa Police Department.
- Provide citizens with an understanding of the resources available to the Mesa Police Department.
- Provide citizens with a unique understanding of the procedures and legal issues involved in law enforcement.
- Identify volunteer positions within the organization for possible opportunities to become involved.

This twelve-week program is designed to familiarize each participant with the organizational structure and operations of the various units within the Mesa Police Department. This includes on-site tours of the various facilities in which these units are stationed:

Central Substation	Main Station
Training Facility	Aviation Unit Hanger
Criminal Investigations	Communications
Center Against Family Violence	Crime Lab
Range Facility	Identification Lab

The Citizen Police Academy includes unit presentations and introductions to key personnel including the following:

- Introduction of Chief Jan Strauss and Assistant Chiefs Greg Fowler, Dennis Donna, and Ron Poulin.
- Introduction of the Police Commanders.
- Unit Presentations: Hiring, Police Academy, Field Training Program, Patrol, Bikes, Community Action Team, Criminal Investigations, Special Investigations, Air Unit, K-9 Unit, Training Section, Traffic, SWAT, Firearms, Communications, Community Relations, Volunteer Program (VIPS), Explorers.

Next Academy starts in September

For further information please contact:

Liz Bishop

Mesa Police Training Section

(480) 644-4138

Watch Groups Around the World

Neighborhood Watch is everywhere, even in Australia. The Neighborhood Watch scheme began in Victoria, Australia in 1983 and was formally launched in South Wales in the Sydney suburb of Campsie in December 1984. Their program functions almost exactly the way our program works. Except, they require four meetings per year compared to our two required events.

Fun Facts:

Our Emergency # 911

Their Emergency # 000

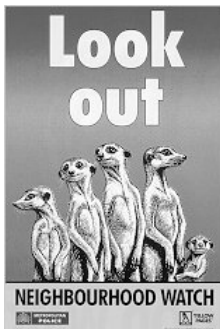
Our Non-Emergency # 644-2211

Their Non-Emergency # 11444

Prevention is everywhere.

Lets work together to fight

CRIME!



Water Safety

With summer just around the corner, kids are attracted to water like a worm is to dirt. Anyone with children and a pool needs to be aware and alert at all times. Never leave a child alone around water. This includes bathtubs, toilets, buckets, ponds, fountains and other areas of open water.

The **Mesa Fire Fighters Association** offers public CPR classes. For more information, please call 480-892-2862 or contact the Mesa Fire Department at 480-644-2101

Crime Prevention Specialist Jerry Quarles

Falcon District Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

Office: 480-644-2539

Community Relations Unit:

480-644-2300

Fax: 480-644-2800

Mesa City Home Page:

www.ci.mesa.az.us



Mesa Police Department
Community Relations Unit
130 North Robson
Mesa, AZ 85201-6697

PRESORTED STANDARD

US POSTAGE

PAID

MESA, ARIZONA

PERMIT NO. 160

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

